

UN-HABITAT

Committee Description



READ TO DISCOVER:

1. What is the main focus of UN-HABITAT?
2. What does the HABITAT AGENDA do?
3. What Millennium Development Goal is UN-HABITAT assigned?

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT is a working agency of the United Nations. The mission of UN-HABITAT is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities, with a focus on providing adequate shelter for all.

UN-HABITAT was created in 1978 during a meeting in Vancouver, Canada called HABITAT I. Since sustainable development was not as an important issue as it is today, UN-HABITAT did not do much work until 1996. In 1996 a second meeting of UN-HABITAT, HABITAT II was held in Istanbul, Turkey. The HABITAT AGENDA was passed at this meeting and was signed by 171 member nations. The HABITAT AGENDA provides over 600 recommendations for sustainable development in cities and towns around the world.

UN-HABITAT has a head quarters in Nairobi, Kenya with three other regional offices and five liaison offices around the world. The leadership of the agency is run through an executive director and a governing council of 58 member states.

An example of projects UN-HABITAT is currently working on includes sustainable urban planning and management, water, and sanitation programs.

UN-HABITAT has been assigned the specific Millennium Development Goal, Target 7, to improve the lives of over 100,000 million slum dwellers by 2020.



Source: <http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=10>